



**USAID | MACEDONIA**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **USAID and 'Aleksandar Urdarevski' Primary School in Cucer Sandevo embark together on the path towards better education**

USAID's Primary Education Project (PEP), in cooperation with the school community and the Municipality of Cucer Sandevo, organized a ribbon cutting ceremony on October 15<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the successful reconstruction of the Aleksandar Urdarevski Primary School roof. This activity is one of 77 school renovations that have been carried out by PEP so far. By 2011, over 120 schools will be renovated, which is nearly one-third of the primary schools in Macedonia.

"By renovating this school, we have not only created a better learning environment, but we also created a child-friendly, safe environment for the students. And, something [more](#) the mayor and director appreciate: the renovations will also provide energy savings, which will result in extra money that can be used for other educational priorities" said Keith Prenton, USAID PEP Chief of Party.

The renovation component of the Primary Education Project supports the creation of better learning environments and decentralization of the responsibility for school facilities to municipal governments. The project also works to increase access to and use of information technology ~~and well as to~~ [improving](#) the quality of math and science education in Macedonian primary schools.

The Primary Education Project, implemented by the Academy for Educational Development (AED), works with all public primary schools in Macedonia. The project seeks to improve the quality of instruction and increase students' [employment skills](#). The overall goal of the USAID Education Program is to strengthen education in Macedonia and to support decentralization efforts, as Macedonia seeks entrance to the European Union.

#### NOTE TO EDITORS:

The American people, through USAID, have invested nearly \$500 million in Macedonia since 1993. USAID is implementing projects that create jobs, reduce corruption, and prepare Macedonian students for the workforce. These initiatives improve the quality of life and support Macedonia's transition to a stable and prosperous democracy. USAID provides economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 100 countries. For more information please visit <http://macedonia.usaid.gov>.